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ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL, 1893.

THE Annual Meeting was held on Thursday, the 13th instant, at twelve o'clock, M.; the President, Dr. GEORGE E. ELLIS, in the chair.

The record of the March meeting was read and approved; and the list of donors to the Library during the last month was presented.

After the reading of the records, the Librarian announced the gift to the Society of twelve volumes of autograph letters, beautifully mounted and bound, comprising many classified letters of statesmen, orators, judges, lawyers, and authors, and several parcels not yet bound. These autographs had been collected and arranged by Mr. and Mrs. Alexander C. Washburn, and are of great interest and value. They may be briefly described as follows:—

“Governors of Massachusetts.” Two volumes, one containing 105 autograph letters (1644–1884) of nearly all the Governors since the First Charter, beside 17 other papers duly signed, and 51 engravings; the other, 75 commissions and 12 miscellaneous papers, with signatures, as well as 41 engravings.

“Presidents of Harvard University.” This volume contains 44 autograph letters (1655–1878) and 26 other papers, signed, of all the Presidents excepting Leonard Hoar (1672–75); also 12 engravings.

“Presidents of the United States.” There are in this volume 55 autograph letters, including, beside others, 6 of George Washington, 3 of James Madison, and 22 of James Monroe; also 28 engravings.

“Lafayette.” One volume, containing 13 letters (1779–1833) and 4 engravings.

“John Adams and John Quincy Adams.” In this volume there are 46 autograph letters (1776–1819) of John Adams and 6 (1797–1831) of John Quincy Adams; also 5 engravings of the former and 5 of the latter.

“Correspondence, Jay, Pickering & Sullivan, Northeastern Boundary.” This volume contains 4 autograph letters of John Jay, 14 of Timothy Pickering, and 9 of James Sullivan, all signed and extending over the period 1796–98; also 6 portraits, — 4 of Jay, 1 of Pickering, and 1 of Sullivan.

"Thomas Jefferson." One volume, containing 35 autograph letters (1772-1821) and 1 other paper, duly signed, and an engraving.

"Statesmen and Orators." The papers in this volume extend through the years 1755-1879; and among these are autograph letters of George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams, Alexander Hamilton, Samuel Huntington, Fisher Ames, Henry Laurens, Aaron Burr, Richard Henry Lee, Charles Carroll, John Randolph, Stephen Hopkins, John Marshall, Elbridge Gerry, Patrick Henry, Robert Morris, Caleb Strong, Samuel Dexter, Albert Gallatin, Benjamin Rush, Harrison Gray Otis, Daniel Webster, John C. Calhoun, Rufus Choate, Robert C. Winthrop, Charles Sumner, Charles Francis Adams, Abraham Lincoln, John A. Andrew, and Wendell Phillips, as well as of many other distinguished persons. Beside this collection of 107 manuscript papers there are 57 engravings.

"Judges and Eminent Lawyers." This volume contains 126 manuscript papers (1766-1880), including, beside those of other prominent men, letters of John Jay, Fisher Ames, Artemas Ward, William Heath, David Sewall, Nathan Dane, Theophilus Parsons, James Sullivan, the first President of this Society, and his brother, Gen. John Sullivan, Dudley A. Tyng, Jeremiah Mason, Joseph Story, Theron Metcalf, and Nathaniel I. Bowditch. There are also 34 engravings.

Another volume containing 70 letters (1802-86) of distinguished authors; and among them are Count Rumford, Nathaniel Bowditch, John J. Audubon, Nathaniel P. Willis, George Ticknor, Edward Everett, Joseph Story, Washington Allston, William E. Channing, William H. Prescott, Convers Francis, Theodore Parker, Edmund Quincy, George Bancroft, Edmund H. Sears, William Cullen Bryant, Frederic H. Hedge, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Henry W. Longfellow, Louis Agassiz, George S. Hillard, John G. Whittier, John Lothrop Motley, and James Russell Lowell. With these papers there are 36 engravings.

Three parcels of miscellaneous papers ready for binding, extending through the years 1649-1890. Among the 175 papers in this collection are writings of Sir Henry Vane, Samuel Danforth, John Leverett, Jonathan Belcher, Sir William Pepperrell, Thomas Pownall, Francis Bernard, Roger Sherman, Joseph Warren, James Bowdoin, and Robert Morris, as well as of other distinguished persons; also a variety of other papers. There are 21 engravings in these three parcels.

A volume of Foreign Autographs, including papers signed by Sir Henry Vane, Joseph Priestley, Sir Jeffery Amherst, and others; also a few engravings.

It was ordered that a special vote of thanks should be sent to Mr. and Mrs. Washburn for their valuable and important gift.

The Librarian also presented from Dr. Charles E. Clark the original subscription book for the erection of an equestrian statue to Col. Robert G. Shaw, who fell at Fort Wagner.

The PRESIDENT then said:—

We have for a fourth time in painful succession to open our monthly meeting with reference to the death of another of our associates. Henceforward we are to have but the cherished remembrance instead of the personal presence here of Dr. Andrew Preston Peabody, one of the most constant of us all in his attendance, and most interested in our work. We share in all the grateful and respectful tributes, not stopping short of veneration, which have recognized his personal excellences and his long and varied and devoted service in his professional career. I recall him just sixty years ago during these passing months, from whom, as then a tutor in the college, I was receiving instruction in Hebrew.

For a period of years during which he left his heart at the College to find it there again at his return, he filled the duties of a parish minister with eminent ability and fidelity. He belonged to the College, and it had claims upon him as among its most honored alumni. Reading, study, and thought, all pursued with an earnest and patient assiduity, had trained him in generous scholarship. So full and varied were his attainments that he might have served the College in many of its branches of instruction. He was chosen for a place of high responsibility, and for duties and offices that could be defined only by the dictates and guidance of his conscience.

His professorship was designated by its founder as having charge of the training of the "heart." It was for him to give the term a meaning, and to illustrate that meaning by a signal devotion of his inborn and his acquired qualities of character to establishing grateful relations of respect and strong affection between himself and successive classes of students, to be long cherished and then long traditionally remembered.

Rev. Dr. E. J. Young was appointed to write a memoir of Dr. Peabody for publication in the Proceedings of the Society.

The PRESIDENT then read a letter from the Senior Vice-President, who was prevented by illness from being present, making a further valuable gift to the Library:—

50 CHESTNUT STREET, April 11, 1893.

REV. GEORGE E. ELLIS, D.D.,

President of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

MY DEAR SIR, — I send herewith three volumes of notes on the Indians, made by me in 1845, from such books and other writings on the subject as then existed; also two portfolios on the Acadian affairs, relating especially to Charles Saint Etienne de la Tour and Charles de Menou D'Aulnay Charnisay, — also a remarkable manuscript volume, the work of Count René de Menou, the modern representative of the family of D'Aulnay Charnisay.

It is a work of great research, and is incomparably the best account extant of the career of the writer's ancestor in Acadia.

It appears to be the original manuscript of Count de Menou, who is also the author of a book called "*Preuves de l'Histoire de la Maison de Menou*," which is in our library, and which is a general account of the various branches of the Menou family, touching very briefly on the part played by Charles de Menou in Acadia.

Yours very truly,

F. PARKMAN.

Please have the beforementioned books and papers deposited with the "Parkman Papers."

Dr. SAMUEL A. GREEN read the following communication: —

It is due to the memory of our late associate the Reverend Robert C. Waterston, who died on February 21, 1893, that some reference should be made at this meeting to his generous bequests to the Society, which are to take effect on the death of his widow. The will was written entirely in his own hand, and is dated May 21, 1870, two days before he started on a trip to California over the Pacific Railroad, then a great novelty. At the May meeting of that year (Proceedings, XI. 309) a formal vote was passed requesting him to represent the Society on any occasion during his absence that might be agreeable to himself. It will be noted that Mr. Waterston makes a condition of the legacy of his library, that the Society shall remove to a more commodious and fireproof building, and will appropriate a part of said building for its reception; but since the date of his will the Society has erected a more commodious building, which is considered by experts to be also fireproof. Within a few days the Library has received a printed copy of that instrument, which contains,

besides other liberal items to various persons and associations, the following:—

“At her [Mrs. Waterston’s] decease (from the proceeds of the real estate, namely, the store in Milk Street, the store in Essex Street, and the house in Essex Street, one or all), I give and bequeath the sum of Ten thousand dollars to the Massachusetts Historical Society, to accompany the collection of Autograph Letters, Papers and Documents which I shall also leave to said Society, said sum to be safely invested and the income thereof to be appropriated to the printing and publishing of a complete catalogue of said Autograph papers, with proper description thereof and the printing in whole or in part of such papers as may be deemed desirable, also to arrangement for their more convenient use and safe keeping, also for the purchase from time to time of any autographic letters and papers of literary or historical interest or value. These letters and papers to be added to the above-named collection, and the whole to be known and named as the Waterston Collection, partly as a more convenient reference and to distinguish these from other important and valuable collections now in possession of said Society, or which may be added thereto.

“I also give and bequeath the additional sum of Ten thousand dollars, to be safely invested by said Society, namely: The Massachusetts Historical Society, the income thereof to be used in the printing and publishing of any important or interesting Autograph, original Manuscripts, Letters or Documents which may be in possession of said Society, the Fund to be called the ‘Waterston Fund’ No. 2, and the volumes thus printed to be designated in the volume as published by said Fund, and copies of such volumes, as far as considered desirable by the Standing Committee, to be sent to other Historical Societies or Public Libraries.

“Also the sum of Ten thousand dollars left me in trust by my father as a publishing fund, the income as by his will to be appropriated to the publication and distribution of such papers, tracts and books as are best calculated to disseminate useful information and promote spiritual culture. By said will of my father I am authorized to make such disposition of said fund as I shall think proper, ‘either by appropriating the same to public purposes or by designating into whose hands it shall go.’ I do therefore hereby give and bequeath the said sum of Ten thousand dollars to the Massachusetts Historical Society, to be by them safely invested and the income thereof to be used as a publishing fund for the publication and distribution in such manner as the Standing Committee shall deem best to Libraries or individuals of such papers and books as are best calculated to disseminate useful, Historical, Biographical or Literary information, and to be of service in any way to society and mankind, the said fund to be known and designated as the

Waterston Fund No. 3, or Waterston Publishing Fund, and the fact that any book is printed by such fund to be stated on the title page or elsewhere in each book.

“Also on condition that the said Society removes to a more commodious and fire-proof building and will appropriate any room or portion of said building for the purpose, I then give and bequeath my whole Library, with such exception as may be hereafter named and designated, to the Massachusetts Historical Society, with the additional amount of Ten thousand dollars to put such room or portion of said building in order for the commodious and safe-keeping of the books, or if such money is not so needed or is not wholly so used, the remainder shall go to add books to this collection under the direction of the Standing Committee.

“If there should be such room or portion of the building so set apart, I hereby give and bequeath such of the best engravings which I may have, with such works of art as may best tend to add interest and attraction illustrative of Biography or History, or rendering such a collection a pleasure and an advantage.”

While I am on my feet, Mr. President, I will take this occasion to say that at the meeting of the Society on June 14, 1883 (Proceedings, XX. 264), Mr. Winthrop, the President, referred to a letter written to him by the United States Consul at Dresden, announcing the discovery there, in private hands, of an original portrait of Dr. Benjamin Franklin by the celebrated French artist Duplessis. The letter was accompanied by a photograph, which was shown at the time to the members. This picture is now temporarily on exhibition at the Art Museum, where I saw it a few days ago. It is apparently an excellent likeness and a fine painting, and is owned by Dr. Clifford F. Snyder, an American dentist practising his profession in Berlin. At the Museum it has been placed side by side with an original portrait of Franklin belonging to the Boston Athenæum, which has always been attributed to Greuze; and a good opportunity for a comparison of the two pictures is thus offered. It is interesting to note that the one painting is an exact copy of the other, even in its minutest details; and it is evident, too, that they both were made by the same artist, — undoubtedly Duplessis.

Col. Charles R. Codman, of Cotuit, was elected a Resident Member.

Dr. O. W. HOLMES, who appeared to be in excellent health, spoke of his pleasure at being able to be present at the meeting, and then said : —

I received not long ago the Christmas number of "Dixie," a periodical published at Atlanta, Georgia, which had an article entitled "Some Interesting Bits of Georgia History, by Miss Annie Northen." This article was illustrated by an engraving of the church at Midway, where my father, the Rev. Abiel Holmes, a former Secretary of this Society, was a settled minister for six years. There is also a view of the old burial-ground, in which are the graves of many noted public characters. Among them is the supposed resting-place of one whose name once heard is never forgotten, — Button Gwinnett, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, who fell in a duel in the year 1777.

Mr. T. W. HIGGINSON spoke in substance as follows : —

An unfortunate clashing of dates with another local society, of which I am president, is apt to interfere with my attendance on the meetings of this Association. I therefore take this favorable opportunity to submit some letters from the correspondence of my ancestor, Stephen Higginson, who was Member of Congress from Massachusetts in 1783, and is best known as the supposed author of the once celebrated "Laco" letters, directed against John Hancock. The secret of those letters was very well kept ; and when I asked the youngest and last surviving son of Stephen Higginson — the late Mr. James P. Higginson, of Boston, my uncle — whether he had any information on the subject, he told me that he could only remember that, when walking as a boy with his father, he heard the street-boys call after them, "Laco ! Laco !" This shows the local impression ; but I have never felt quite satisfied of its truth, for there is in the Laco letters a vein of bitter sarcasm not to be found in my grandfather's ordinary correspondence, which is grave and weighty. Moreover, the only stroke of wit recorded of him was used in the direction of kindness towards antagonists. The only surviving Federalist who could ever tell me anything about him was Mr. James Richardson, of Dedham, who described to me, many years ago, a discussion in a circle of that faith as to how they should

treat Democrats, especially when the latter were getting the upper hand. Most speakers still favored an unflinching severity; but my grandfather, it seems, thought otherwise, and pithily remarked, "If you have to live in the house with a cat, you must not always address her as 'Cat!' Sometimes you must call her 'Pussy!'" But it may have been, after all, the painful experience of the Laco letters which brought him to this more moderate state of mind.

He was one of many men at the North, especially among the old Salem merchants, who showed that here, as at the South, the mere discipline of public affairs taught men statesmanship, without collegiate education. His letters are not very abundant, for he imitated his political leader, George Cabot, — who was also his double first cousin, — in burning his correspondence after the Hartford Convention period. The first letter I shall read is a simple private one, which is of interest as being an illustration of the free-handed way in which the Boston merchants of that day did things, and also as an invaluable example to the parishioners of modern times. It is addressed to Mr. Higginson's young pastor, at Brookline, well known to this Society in later years as the Rev. John Pierce: —

BOSTON Feby 13, 1805.

D. SIR, — With concern we have heard of your illness; but with pleasure we this day learn by Mr. Heath that you are mending.

I inclose you 100 dollars in Bills, which beg you to accept, persuaded that Gentlemen in your profession are not sufficiently compensated for their labours, nor furnished by their Hearers with competent means of support, especially in cases of sickness and extra expense, I consider it a duty for me to contribute in this way.

I have only to request that you will not mention, nor feel yourself obligated by this mark of esteem and friendship — with my own and Mrs. Hs. respects for Mrs. P I remain Sir yours truly —

S: HIGGINSON.

The letter is indorsed in the clear and methodical style of Dr. Pierce "Stephen Higginson, Senior. Feb. 13, 1805. \$100."

The next letter gives a curious glimpse of the demands sometimes made on mercantile houses in those days: —

NEW YORK NOV. 4th 1787—

GENTLEMEN, — On or about the 8th of September last my Negro Wench named Beth left me and stole and carried off with her a Part

of my Property – My Neighbor Mr. Daniel Ludlow who lately returned from Boston informs Me She is now in your City and has hired herself out (with her Husband a servant of Mr. Charles McEvers) to a Person in Hanover Street, near to a Mr. Coffin Jones upon my Application to Govr. Clinton he has favoured Me with a Letter to his Excellency Govr. Hancock requesting that She may be apprehended agreeable to the Articles of Confederation and sent back that She may be made amenable to the Laws of this State for her felonious Conduct. This Letter I have taken the Liberty by the Recommendation of my Friend Mr. Ludlow to send under Cover to You, and have to request that You would be so good as to deliver it to Govr. Hancock as soon as it comes to Hand, who I make no doubt will give every Aid in his Power to apprehend her – to assist in finding the Wench it is necessary to give you the following Description – She is remarkably short about 28 Years of Age a Yellowish Complexion her Front Teeth are bad She wears her Hair turned back over a Roll and was pregnant when She left Me – her Husband who is now with her is about 25 Years old slender made about 5 feet or 6 inches high black Complexion dresses his Hair back and one or two of his Fingers of one of his Hands is maimed and in some Measure useless – As She is an artful Wench to prevent her escaping I beg when She is apprehended that She may be confined until Capt. Barnard who commands the Schooner Boston Packet and who will leave this on Wednesday is ready to sail for New York and who has promised to take Charge of her – You will be pleased to Deliver her to him just before he sails, with her Cloaths and such Things as may be found with her, and whatever Expence and Trouble may attend this Business, I will chearfully pay to your Order, and your Friendship in this will much oblige

Gentlemen Your most obt. and very humble Servt.

THO. SMITH.

Messrs. JACKSON and HIGGINSON Boston.

I should personally take an extreme interest in knowing precisely what reply was made by the house of Jackson & Higginson to this confiding request; but those who recall the opinion of John Hancock, expressed by “Laco,” may well doubt whether a co-operation between them in slave-hunting would have been altogether harmonious.

The next letter, and much the longest, is from Stephen Higginson, who had declined re-election to Congress, to Arthur Lee, who was still there, in reference to the retirement of Alexander Hamilton — “the General” — from that branch of the public service. It will be remembered that one of Hamilton’s favorite measures had been to obtain consent to

the grant of a five per cent impost on imports. This was defeated, largely through the opposition of Rhode Island ; and Lodge, in his biography of Hamilton (p. 40), says : “ Defeated at this point, Congress fell back on its old policy of recommending a grant for a term of years ; and against this Hamilton and Higginson voted with the Rhode Islanders, who opposed all forms of taxation or debt-paying.” It would seem from this letter, however, that Stephen Higginson was by no means an ally of Hamilton in what the latter called “ continental politics ” : —

BOSTON, Jan’y 27, 1784.

D^R SIR, — Yours from Annapolis I rec^d — the Account you give of the General’s resignation agrees well with what the Papers relate — it was no doubt affecting to you who were present & the manner in which he did it may serve to increase his popularity, for the great mass of the People are governed wholly by appearances, but he would in my Opinion have rendered his Character much more perfect had he have given us in his Valedictory strong evidence that he still retained his republican Ideas & principles, that he yet should be anxiously careful to preserve unimpaired the Constitut. and could never be induced by foreign or domestic Influence to aid those measures that have the most remote tendency to subvert that Government which he once affected to revere & for the support of which he has repeatedly declared he was ready to hazard his All — I confess that it is to me mysterious how a man who has any knowledge of Our national affairs & is in any degree acquainted with the Characters of those in the great Departments & of Congress, can be highly in favour of the 5 pr. ct. Impost and for increasing the Powers of Congress, & at the same time heartily attached to Our present Constitution — Can any man take a View of the Doings of Congress for the last three years & believe that an increase of their Power would conduce to the public Happiness or tend to preserve our present form of Government ? Does not the present Congress in a great degree consist of the same men whose public Conduct will surely be ever memorable, does not the same Junto, the same Influence still guide the measures of Congress that laid the most important Interests, nay the very Independence, of this Country at the feet of the french ministry~ & while this is the Case must not an increase of their power in the same degree increase the danger of Our being yet brought into Bondage~ surely it must — Who will believe that an Impost which from its very nature will give room for ambitious & designing ministers to misapply it, nay to employ it to seduce even Congress itself or some of its members, when he knows that specific Taxes granted in such manner & under such Checks as rendered it easy to discover the least misap-

plications, when he knows that the monies collected on such Taxes have been in violation of every principle of policy & Justice by the very men now in Office applied to such purposes~ — for my own part I can not believe that those who will hazard a misappropriation when detection is highly probable if not certain will hesitate doing it when they have the means in their own hands of hiding it from the public Eye, & surely those who have the disposal of an unknown sum may be said to have such means —

But I can not suspect the Generals Love of Liberty and attachment to his Country, I rather suppose that he has had not all that information which is necessary to form a right Judgment — his situation seemed favorable for acquiring a thorough knowledge of Our political Affairs, but I believe that the Junto, who always had their setters around him, took great pains to keep him ignorant of their measures and wholly in the dark as to their Views — sensible of his Virtues they concealed from him their Intentions, lest his influence, which has always been great, should be opposed to them.

Mr. F—r may talk of resigning but depend upon it he will not do it till he apprehends danger of being displaced or is thoroughly satisfied that he can no longer govern — I wish he would resign, it will not be an easy matter for him again to assume the Reins, there is a very wide difference between retaining an Office in possession and obtaining one that is vacant — a consciousness of that difference has emboldened many of the public Servants to follow their own inclination, and to treat even Congress with Contempt — secure of a Junto in Congress they were sure of their places, and having a few venal Ones at their Command, they have bid defiance to the Body — it is high time that your Servants were annually elected, from the highest to the lowest they have become insolent, let this reformation take place & I will answer for their behaving better in future —

Why will not your state Rhode Island, Jersey & No. Carolina give their Delegates similar Instructions to Cong~ if three or four States would agree & urge a reformation in the same points they would not fail of success — Copies of Our memorial &c should be sent to those states —

What think you of the Cincinnati, what says Congress to it, how does your state relish it~ is it an Exotic and a part of the great System or not~ a serious opposition is forming to it here & such as will soon check if not destroy the influence of the Institution in this State.

Whence arises the Anxiety that gave rise to your resolution in Virg^a about Trade, and produced the coalition in Phil^a ~ Congress ought to forward Commissions for settling the great Commercial Arrangements in Europe — if by the unsettled state of things Our carrying Trade is in danger, which certainly is the Case, & the States shall by and by

find themselves injured, will they not have just ground to clamour against Congress — is the Complaint on this Score foreign manufacture or homespun? —

Have you any prospect of getting a substitute for your 5 pr. ct system for that certainly will fail, have you any prospect of the States giving the necessary Aids in any other way? — I fear they will not untill they shall have felt the necessity of establishing proper & sufficient Funds, & before that necessity shall clearly appear a general Confusion & perhaps Convulsions may take place — Government must have money most certainly, & public Debts, or at the least the Interest upon them must be paid, but the people at large do not see that necessity & the respective State Governments have but little energy, Taxes will therefore be paid with reluctance & slowly — you see this Indisposition to pay in a specific constitutional way by the Conduct of the States upon the late recommendations — every State almost has granted the 5 pr. ct. Imp. though with it they grant their Liberty, but no State has yet granted the collateral Funds nor will they do it — when they give an Impost they fancy they give nothing, or rather each one thinks when he votes for it that he & his Constituents will not in that way contribute, they expect by some means or other to evade it — the Impost is therefore, though it carries with it a deadly poison, readily granted by many — but when the specific Tax is asked they start at the proposition, for to this they expect all to contribute. Thus do they show that to avoid the payment of a moderate Tax they will trust both their money & their Liberties in the hands of those who they have every reason to think wish to deprive them of them — they had rather hazard a general Convulsion & perhaps Revolution than grant their monies in a constitutional & safe way — so very unwary are they & regardless of the public safety, that it is easier to deceive & cajole them out of both their Liberty & their money, than persuade them like Freemen to grant with their Eyes open a small part only of their property — I wish much to see a better disposition and the States willing to grant the necessary Funds in a safe way, but I think the danger much less from the want of them than that which will certainly attend the adoption of Imposts — the one may induce temporary & great Evils, the other will inevitably entail upon us those which are much greater & permanent.

Perhaps your new Situation may much better favor the Views of the independent Gentlemen than your former One. I cannot but hope that the Influence of the Junto in Congress will be less in future, it must be more difficult at that distance to keep their tools properly instructed, they can not repair as in Phil^a every morning to the Office for Directions — should you find less force opposed to you in Congress than heretofore, will it not be eligible to push some points We had in contemplation in order to weaken & derange their plans, & as you succeed to press

forward — but Care must be taken that by proper Arrangements every motion shall prepare the way for another, you must let the warm Ones, as Howells, aim at too much at once — you have a formidable & a subtle Junto to deal with, your plans therefore must be opened by degrees — pray how stands the French Influence now, is it upon the increase or decrease in Congress & the Southern States~ They have lately lost an able & active Agent here, one on whom they much depended —

Is there any appearance of Mr. Van Berckel's having any weight in your politics, or does he not interest himself in your Decision.

Mr. Dana will be with you soon & I hope he will have a seat on your Floor if any vacancy happens. I expect he will be appointed. I gave Mr. Gerry or Mr. Osgood an account of the manner in which he has been called home — it will show you how great has been the weight of foreign Influence, to Our disgrace it proves that the Servants of Congress have been much more under the direction of that Influence than of Congress — the Secretary in that instance dared to go in direct opposition to the Sense and intention of Congress to forward the Views of that Influence, or rather of the Junto which supports it — I hope that instance of, may I not say, Treachery, will rouse Congress to attend to the Conduct of their Servants more closely, & to impeach all those who shall dare venture to disobey their Orders or in such wise counteract their Intentions.

Our Court have granted you 3000 Acres of Land in Our eastern Country & appointed a Committee to lay it out in York Cumberland or Lincoln Counties the two first Committees that were appointed made no return & perhaps owing to the Influence you suspect of being against you, but the last Session a new Committee was appointed who will do the Business, they are good men & mean I am told to lay it out in the County of York where there is a plenty of good Land — Our Judge Sewall is Chairman of the Committee — I expect next week to see two of the Gentlemen when I shall not fail to urge them to perfect the Business & to your advantage — I should have wrote you before on this matter but I have not till within a few days been able to find the real state of it.

I am interested in a lot of Land in north Carolina, my share is 10,000 Acres, the quality of it is said to be very good & the value of it great, from two to three Dollars p Acre — I have heard much of its value &c but I know nothing about it but from the Accounts of others — it is so very distant from hence that I never expect to have such knowledge of it as is necessary to make any advantage of it either in the way of sale or improvement, but you by living in the neighborhood may perhaps find your account in exchanging what may be set off to you here for it, as the same difficulty will attend your holding wild Lands here — I

would therefore propose to you an inquiry into the Value of my Lands in No. Carolina, in order that if We think it convenient We may thus exchange upon fair and equitable terms — Mr. Hawkins I suppose can give you full information about it, I could not describe it to him with precision from memory when I was in Congress, but he appeared to be well acquainted with that Country where it lays — my share is one eighth part of a Tract containing Eighty thousand Acres which is part of a Tract of Land q^t 100,000 Acres granted by the King to Governor Dobbs by eight patents of 12,500 Acres each, it is known by the name of the *great Tract* & is situated on Rocky or Johnson River & the Branches thereof in Mecklenburg County, & is said to be of excellent quality & within seven miles of the Court house.

We purchased it of Mr. Alexander Rose of So. Carolina & have from him the original Patents with his own Deeds & the intermediate Ones, so that the Title is very clear and good — Mr. Rose has declared to us that he could have had for it since or before two hard Dollars $\frac{7}{8}$ Acre, & a Gentleman who came through the Country told us he knew the Land perfectly, that it was well situated & very good, & he was very urgent with us to be admitted to a share in the purchase, promising that he would go & see it settled &c. We had made Our Company & declined — Our Company are Jona. Jackson, John Lowell, Nath Tracy, Leo. Jarvis, T: Russell, Martin Brimmer, Jn^o & Andrew Cabot and myself — I have since heard that the Land is not so good as We had heard but it was from a Person who lived in that Country and wanted to purchase — Now I wish you to satisfy yourself as to the quality & value of it, which you may easily do with this description of it taking care to distinguish between those who wish to purchase it & those from whom you can get a disinterested Account of it — Mr. Hawkins I should suppose can put you in a way to get the information wanted — as it is much out of Our reach I believe some of the others would sell on good terms — The sire of your mare from the best information I can get was a horse imported by the late Governor Wentworth of New Hampshire called the *little Driver* a very famous horse in this Country — present my respects to all Friends.

I am yours affye

[STEPHEN HIGGINSON.]

Honble ARTHUR LEE, Esqre
Member of Congress Annapolis

It is a curious fact that the signature of this letter is omitted ; but it is in the handwriting of Mr. Higginson, and endorsed by Mr. Lee as having been received from him. The omission was doubtless accidental, although had it occurred later, after the Federalists had become objects of suspicion and possible indictment, a different interpretation might have been put upon it.

The gift of land by the State of Massachusetts to Arthur Lee was made, it will be remembered, in acknowledgment of his services to the colony as its agent in England in connection with Benjamin Franklin. The amount appropriated to him has been usually stated at four thousand acres, but is here fixed at three thousand. The reference to Southern lands is very interesting, as showing that the Boston merchants were already extending their interests very widely. I have been able to ascertain nothing further about "the great tract," except that our associate, Col. Henry Lee, tells me that he remembers hearing these lands mentioned in his youth; and recalls also that Jonathan Jackson, being urged to go and visit them, replied that he would do it if the other owners would send him in a coach-and-six. It is hardly worth while to follow up further any feature of that period which even Colonel Lee's memory cannot recall; but if I am the legal heir to a few hundred acres of North Carolina land "of excellent quality," I should certainly be very glad to know it. As to the close of this letter, there is something very amusing, and perhaps rather healthful and creditable, in the manner in which the writer's discourse, beginning with Alexander Hamilton and the five per cent impost, ends with horseflesh and the Little Driver.

The regular business of the Annual Meeting was then taken up; and Mr. A. LAWRENCE LOWELL read the report of the Senior Member at Large of the Council, Mr. EDWARD J. LOWELL, who is now absent in Europe.

Report of the Council.

It is the custom of this Society that the senior retiring member of the Council shall examine, in his report, some matter of general interest to the Society, rather than that he should review the proceedings of the past year. Conforming to this custom, I propose briefly to consider the general purposes for which we are united, and to emphasize one of them.

The Massachusetts Historical Society was incorporated in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-four for "the collection and preservation of materials for a political and natural history of the United States." The limit

thus set has never been reached in practice. Natural history has not taken a large place in the interests of the Society. On the other hand, the discussion of historical and archæological questions, and the publication of documents (as the best form of their preservation) have become an important part of its labors.

Still the Society retains, as its principal purpose, "the collection and preservation of materials"; and that purpose it has in a great measure performed. Our library is large and valuable, containing some books not easily found elsewhere; but our principal possessions are our manuscripts. These are many and precious; and our chief ambition, as members of this Society, should be to increase their value and their numbers. This is to be done by making those that we already possess as useful as possible. The Society is not remiss in publishing its valuable papers; but there are necessarily in our custody many manuscripts which we cannot afford to publish, and which it would not be worth while to publish could we afford it. These have but a local, personal, or partial interest; very few people would wish to read them, but they might be of great use to some historical scholar. Buried among piles of dusty papers, there are probably documents in these rooms which would throw real light on important historical questions. No one can put his finger on all of them, for no one knows the directions which individual talent and research may take. The great problem before this Society is how to make these papers accessible.

Serious efforts have already been made with this object in view. A committee has been appointed to make a list or catalogue of our manuscripts, and to publish it in the Proceedings. A considerable section of those manuscripts, the Pickering papers, has been carefully indexed, under the direction of another committee; and the index thus made awaits publication. Whenever these catalogues and indexes are published, the members of the Society *and other persons* will have the best means which we have been able to devise of knowing what manuscripts we possess. Their publication, therefore, should be undertaken with all possible speed.

I say *other persons*, as well as members of the Society, for no policy could be more short-sighted than to refuse to scholars who are not members here the use of our unpublished, and for

the most part unpublshable, manuscripts. We are, in a sense, trustees for the scholars of the country. While it is our duty to see to the careful preservation of our possessions, while we must surround their use with such precautions as may insure their safety, our policy as to the manuscripts in our hands should be thoroughly generous. This only will secure the continued reception by us of valuable manuscripts. The rooms of this Society are not now the only possible place of deposit for family papers and historical material. Testators and donors can find other repositories, and will do so, if we do not let our light shine before men. Let us make this the safest, and at the same time the most useful place. Let us imitate the liberality of the men in charge of best-managed public archives of Europe; and being known to give generously, we shall receive freely. Thus shall we best collect materials, thus best preserve them. The motto over our door may remind us that it is not for ourselves, but for others, that our labors are performed.

During the past year the Society has lost some of its most honored members. Among the Resident Members there have been five deaths, as follows : —

Fitch Edward Oliver,	Dec. 8, 1892.
Phillips Brooks,	Jan. 23, 1893.
Robert Cassie Waterston,	Feb. 21, 1893.
Henry Wheatland,	Feb. 27, 1893.
Andrew Preston Peabody,	March 10, 1893.

There have also died three Corresponding Members, —

George Henry Moore,	May 5, 1892.
George William Curtis,	August 31, 1892.
Sir John Bernard Burke,	Dec. 13, 1892.

Two Resident Members have been elected : —

George Spring Merriam,	June 9, 1892.
Edward Lillie Pierce,	March 9, 1893.

During the year the Society has published : —

Collections, 6th series, Vol. V.

Proceedings, 2d series, Vol. VII., 1891, 1892.

Also a serial number of the same volume (March to May, 1892), and two numbers of Vol. VIII., 2d series (October, 1892, to February, 1893).

The publications made by the members have been as follows:—

Three Episodes of Massachusetts History: The Settlement of Boston Bay; The Antinomian Controversy; A Study of Church and Town Government. Two volumes. Second edition. By Charles Francis Adams.

Zachary Phips. By Edwin L. Bynner.

Quarterly Journal of Economics, Vol. VI. Edited by Charles F. Dunbar.

A Greek Grammar, revised and enlarged. By William W. Goodwin.

Harvard Studies in Classical Philology. Edited by a Committee (William W. Goodwin, and others) of the Classical Instructors of Harvard University. Vol. III.

Groton Historical Series: Numbers VII. to XII. of Volume III., completing that volume. By Samuel A. Green.

A List of Micmac Names of Places, Rivers, etc., in Nova Scotia. Compiled by Elizabeth Frame. With a Prefatory Note by Samuel A. Green.

The Result of Columbus's Discovery. By Edward Everett Hale.

Subjects and Methods of Political and Economical Debates. Compiled by Albert B. Hart.

American History Leaflets: Colonial and Constitutional. Edited by Albert B. Hart and Edward Channing, Nos. 1-4.

A World outside of Science. By Thomas W. Higginson.

Proceedings of the Twenty-second Annual Meeting of the National Board of Trade, held in Washington, January, 1892. Edited by Hamilton A. Hill.

Thomas Coram in Boston and Taunton. By Hamilton A. Hill.

Historical and Political Essays. By Henry Cabot Lodge.

The Eve of the French Revolution. By Edward J. Lowell.

The Divine Comedy of Dante Alighieri, Vol. III. Translated by Charles Eliot Norton.

Preaching. By Andrew P. Peabody.

Address delivered at the Dedication of the Cambridge English High School Building, April 4, 1892. By Andrew P. Peabody.

Faith, Virtue, Knowledge: An Address delivered at the Eighty-ninth Anniversary of Bradford Academy, on Wednesday, June 8, 1892. By Andrew P. Peabody.

The Andover Band in Maine. By Edward G. Porter.

Archæological and Ethnological Papers of the Peabody Museum, Vol. I. No. 4, 1892. Edited by Frederick W. Putnam.

The Campaign of Waterloo: A Military History. By John C. Ropes.

An Atlas of the Campaign of Waterloo. Designed to accompany

the Author's "Campaign of Waterloo: A Military History." By John C. Ropes.

American Commonwealths. Edited by Horace E. Scudder. California from the Conquest in 1846 to the second Vigilance Committee in San Francisco, by Josiah Royce; Indiana, a Redemption from Slavery, by J. P. Dunn, Jr.; New York, the Planting and Growth of the Empire State, by Ellis H. Roberts, two volumes.

Hymns Original and Selected. With Responsive Services for Private and Public Use. By Robert C. Waterston.

America Prefigured: An Address at Harvard University, October 21, 1892. By Justin Winsor.

Bibliographical Contributions, Harvard University. Edited by Justin Winsor.

Harvard College: The Class of 1828, with a bibliography of the publications of its members. Edited by Justin Winsor.

Harvard University Bulletin, Nos. 50-52. Edited by Justin Winsor.

The Pageant of Saint Lusson, Sault Ste. Marie, 1671: A Commencement Address at the University of Michigan, June 30, 1892. By Justin Winsor.

Fourteenth Annual Report of the Librarian of Harvard University. By Justin Winsor.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD J. LOWELL.

The report of the Treasurer, Mr. CHARLES C. SMITH, and the report of the Auditors, Hon. ROGER WOLCOTT and Mr. HAMILTON A. HILL, were presented in print. They are as follows:—

Report of the Treasurer

In compliance with the requirements of the By-Laws, Chapter VII., Article 1, the Treasurer respectfully submits his Annual Report, made up to March 31, 1893.

The special funds held by him are the same as they were at the date of his last Annual Report. They are eleven in number, and are as follows:—

I. THE APPLETON FUND, which was created Nov. 18, 1854, by a gift to the Society, from Nathan Appleton, William Appleton, and Nathaniel I. Bowditch, trustees under the will of the late Samuel Appleton, of stocks of the appraised value of ten thousand dollars. These stocks were subsequently sold for \$12,203, at which sum the fund now stands. The income

is applicable to "the procuring, preserving, preparation, and publication of historical papers." The cost of publishing the sixth part of the Winthrop Papers was charged to the income of this fund.

II. THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL TRUST-FUND, which now stands, with the accumulated income, at \$10,000. This fund originated in a gift of two thousand dollars from the late Hon. David Sears, presented Oct. 15, 1855, and accepted by the Society Nov. 8, 1855. On Dec. 26, 1866, it was increased by a gift of five hundred dollars from Mr. Sears, and another of the same amount from our late associate, Mr. Nathaniel Thayer. The income must be appropriated in accordance with the directions in Mr. Sears's declaration of trust in the printed Proceedings for November, 1855.

III. THE DOWSE FUND, which was given to the Society by George Livermore and Eben. Dale, executors of the will of the late Thomas Dowse, April 9, 1857, for the "safe keeping" of the Dowse Library. It amounts to \$10,000.

IV. THE PEABODY FUND, which was presented by the late George Peabody, in a letter dated Jan. 1, 1867, and now stands at \$22,123. The income is available only for the publication and illustration of the Society's Proceedings and Memoirs, and for the preservation of the Society's Historical Portraits.

V. THE SAVAGE FUND, which was a bequest from the late Hon. James Savage, received in June, 1873, and now stands on the books at the sum of \$6,000. The income is to be used for the increase of the Society's Library.

VI. THE ERASTUS B. BIGELOW FUND, which was given in February, 1881, by Mrs. Helen Bigelow Merriman, in recognition of her father's interest in the work of the Society. The original sum was one thousand dollars; but the interest up to this date having been added to the principal, it now stands at \$1,954.49. There is no restriction as to the use to be made of this fund; and it is not proposed to add the income to the principal after the amount reaches the sum of \$2,000.

VII. THE WILLIAM WINTHROP FUND, which amounts to the sum of \$3,000, and was received Oct. 13, 1882, under the will of the late William Winthrop, for many years a Corresponding Member of the Society. The income is to be applied

“to the binding for better preservation of the valuable manuscripts and books appertaining to the Society.”

VIII. THE RICHARD FROTHINGHAM FUND, which represents a gift to the Society, on the 23d of March, 1883, from the widow of our late Treasurer, of a certificate of twenty shares in the Union Stock Yard and Transit Co., of Chicago, of the par value of \$100 each, and of the stereotype plates of Mr. Frothingham's "Siege of Boston," "Life of Joseph Warren," and "Rise of the Republic." The fund stands on the Treasurer's books at \$3,000, exclusive of the copyright. There are no restrictions on the uses to which the income may be applied. The cost of publishing the volume of Belcher Papers now in press will be charged to the income of this fund.

IX. THE GENERAL FUND, which now amounts to \$8,000. It represents the following gifts and payments to the Society:—

1. A gift of two thousand dollars from the residuary estate of the late MARY PRINCE TOWNSEND, by the executors of her will, William Minot and William Minot, Jr., in recognition of which, by a vote of the Society, passed June 13, 1861, the Treasurer was "directed to make and keep a special entry in his account books of this contribution as the donation of Miss Mary P. Townsend."

2. A legacy of two thousand dollars from the late HENRY HARRIS, received in July, 1867.

3. A legacy of one thousand dollars from the late GEORGE BEMIS, received in March, 1879.

4. A gift of one hundred dollars from the late RALPH WALDO EMERSON, received in April, 1881.

5. A legacy of one thousand dollars from the late WILLIAMS LATHAM, received in May, 1884.

6. A bequest of five shares in the Cincinnati Gas-Light and Coke Co. from our late Recording Secretary, GEORGE DEXTER, received in June, 1884.

7. Six commutation fees of one hundred and fifty dollars each.

The cost of publishing the seventh volume of the second series of the Proceedings was charged to the income of this fund.

X. THE ANONYMOUS FUND, which originated in a gift of

\$1,000 to the Society in April, 1887, communicated in a letter to the Treasurer printed in the Proceedings (2d series, vol. iii. pp. 277, 278). A further gift of \$250 was received from the same generous friend in April, 1888. The income up to the present time has been added to the principal. The fund now stands at \$1,691.79.

XI. THE WILLIAM AMORY FUND, which was a gift of \$3,000, under the will of our associate, the late WILLIAM AMORY, received Jan. 7, 1889. There are no restrictions on the uses to which the income may be applied. The income has been allowed to accumulate, with the view to the publication of a volume of Collections at some future period.

The Treasurer also holds a deposit book in the Five Cent Savings Bank for \$100 and interest, which is applicable to the care and preservation of the beautiful model of the Brattle Street Church, deposited with us in April, 1877.

It should not be forgotten that besides the gifts and bequests represented by these funds, which the Treasurer is required to take notice of in his Annual Report, numerous gifts have been made to the Society from time to time, and expended for the purchase of the real estate, or in promoting the objects for which the Society was organized. A detailed account of these gifts was included in the Annual Report of the Treasurer, dated March 31, 1887, printed in the Proceedings (2d series, vol. iii. pp. 291-296); and in the list of the givers there enumerated will be found the names of many honored associates, living or departed, and of other gentlemen, not members of the Society, who were interested in the promotion of historical studies. They gave liberally in the day of small things; and to them the Society is largely indebted for its present prosperity and usefulness.

Since the mortgage on the Society's building was finally extinguished in July, 1886, the Treasurer has been able to continue without interruption the reinvestment of the funds which had been temporarily invested in the building. The amount thus invested is \$4,058.95; and it is hoped this sum will be reinvested during the next financial year. The investments stand on the books at \$76,913.33, their actual cost; but when the whole sum has been reinvested, it will be the duty of whoever may then be Treasurer to charge off from time to time a sufficient sum to reduce all stocks and bonds to their

par value, with a view to the gradual increase of the income apportioned to each fund. The average interest on the cost has been for the last year a little more than five per cent.

The stocks and bonds held by the Treasurer are as follows: \$10,000 in the five per cent mortgage bonds of the Chicago and West Michigan Railroad Co.; \$5,000 in the four per cent bonds of the Rio Grande Western Railroad Co.; \$5,000 in the four per cent bonds of the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad Co.; \$5,000 in the five per cent gold bonds of the Cincinnati, Dayton, and Iron-ton Railroad Co.; \$5,000 in the four per cent general mortgage bonds of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fé Railroad Co., and \$3,000 in the second four per cent bonds of the same corporation, received in exchange for their income bonds for the same amount; \$1,000 in a five per cent collateral trust bond of the Chicago Junction Railways and Union Stock Yard Co.; fifty shares in the Merchants' National Bank of Boston; fifty shares in the State National Bank of Boston; fifty shares in the National Bank of Commerce of Boston; fifty shares in the National Union Bank of Boston; forty-seven shares in the Columbian National Bank of Boston; five shares in the Second National Bank of Boston; twenty-five shares in the Boston and Albany Railroad Co.; twenty-five shares in the Old Colony Railroad Co.; five shares in the Cincinnati Gas Light and Coke Co.; five shares in the Cincinnati Electric Light Co. (of a par value of \$5 each); and two shares in the Boston Real Estate Trust (of the par value of \$1,000).

The following abstracts and the trial balance show the present condition of the several accounts:—

CASH ACCOUNT.

1892.		DEBITS.	
March 31.	To balance on hand		\$625.00
1893.			
March 31.	To receipts as follows:—		
	General Account		11,175.12
	Consolidated Income		3,672.29
	Income of Richard Frothingham Fund		147.70
			<u>\$15,620.11</u>
March 31.	To balance brought down		\$459.23

1893.

CREDITS.

March 31. By payments as follows:—

Investments	\$6,082.12
Income of Peabody Fund	535.98
Income of Savage Fund	300.29
Income of William Winthrop Fund	158.45
Income of Appleton Fund	1,332.96
Income of Richard Frothingham Fund	500.00
Income of General Fund	1,535.08
General Account	4,716.00
By balance on hand	459.23

\$15,620.11

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

1892.

DEBITS.

March 31. To balance brought forward \$1,492.59

1893.

March 31. To sundry payments:—

Salaries of Librarian's Assistants	2,650.00
New book-cases	115.55
Printing, stationery, and postage	239.12
Fuel and light	247.03
Care of fire, etc.	301.45
Miscellaneous expenses and repairs	162.85
Editing publications of the Society	1,000.00
Consolidated Income	374.42
Building Account	5,741.28

\$12,324.20

March 31. To balance brought down \$648.33

1893.

CREDITS.

March 31. By sundry receipts:—

Rent of Building	\$9,000.00
Interest	28.18
Income of Dowse Fund	500.84
Admission Fees	75.00
Assessments	900.00
Sales of publications	1,171.94
By balance to new account	648.33

\$12,324.29*Income of Appleton Fund.*

1893.

DEBITS.

March 31. To amount paid for printing and binding \$1,310.38
 " " " for heliotype 22.58
 " balance carried forward 1,167.88

\$2,500.84

CREDITS.	
1892.	
March 31.	By balance brought forward \$1,889.65
1893.	
March 31.	„ proportion of consolidated income 611.19
	<u>\$2,500.84</u>
March 31.	By balance brought down \$1,167.88

Income of William Winthrop Fund.

DEBITS.	
1893.	
March 31.	To amount paid for binding \$158.45
	„ balance carried forward 75.57
	<u>\$234.02</u>

CREDITS.	
1892.	
March 31.	By balance brought forward \$83.77
1893.	
March 31.	„ proportion of consolidated income 150.25
	<u>\$234.02</u>
March 31.	By balance brought down \$75.57

Income of Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund.

DEBITS.	
1892.	
March 31.	To balance brought down \$166.70
1893.	
March 31.	„ balance carried forward 334.14
	<u>\$500.84</u>

CREDITS.	
1893.	
March 31.	By proportion of consolidated income \$500.84
March 31.	By balance brought down \$334.14

Income of Richard Frothingham Fund.

DEBITS.	
1893.	
March 31.	To amount paid for editing Collections \$500.00
	„ balance carried forward 1,225.30
	<u>\$1,725.30</u>

CREDITS.	
1892.	
March 31.	By balance brought forward \$1,427.35
1893.	
March 31.	„ copyright received 147.70
	„ proportion of consolidated income 150.25
	<u>\$1,725.30</u>
March 31.	By amount brought down \$1,225.30

Income of Dowse Fund.

DEBITS.

1893.		
March 31.	To amount placed to credit of General Account	\$500.84

CREDITS.

1893.		
March 31.	By proportion of consolidated income	\$500.84

Income of Peabody Fund.

DEBITS.

1892.		
March 31.	To balance brought forward	\$2,328.02
1893.		
March 31.	„ amount paid for printing, binding, and heliotypes . .	518.98
	„ „ „ „ repairs of paintings	17.00
		<u>\$2,864.00</u>
March 31.	To balance brought down	\$1,756.00

CREDITS.

1893.		
March 31.	By proportion of consolidated income	\$1,108.00
	„ balance carried forward	1,756.00
		<u>\$2,864.00</u>

Income of General Fund.

DEBITS.

1893.		
March 31.	To amount paid for editing Proceedings	\$500.00
	„ „ „ „ printing and binding	1,005.08
	„ „ „ „ heliotyping	30.00
		<u>\$1,535.08</u>
March 31.	To balance brought down	\$441.24

CREDITS.

1892.		
March 31.	By balance brought forward	\$693.16
1893.		
March 31.	„ proportion of consolidated income	400.68
	„ balance carried forward	441.24
		<u>\$1,535.08</u>

Income of Savage Fund.

DEBITS.

1892.		
March 31.	To balance brought forward	\$170.10
1893.		
March 31.	„ amount paid for books	300.29
		<u>\$470.39</u>
March 31.	To balance brought down	\$169.88

1893.

CREDITS.

March 31.	By proportion of consolidated income	\$300.51
	„ balance carried forward	169.88
		<u>\$470.39</u>

TRIAL BALANCE.

DEBITS.

Cash	\$459.23
Real Estate	103,280.19
Investments	76,913.33
Income of Peabody Fund	1,756.00
Income of General Fund	441.24
Income of Savage Fund	169.88
General Account	648.33
	<u>\$183,668.20</u>

CREDITS.

Building Account	\$99,221.24
Appleton Fund	12,203.00
Dowse Fund	10,000.00
Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund	10,000.00
Peabody Fund	22,123.00
Savage Fund	6,000.00
Erastus B. Bigelow Fund	1,954.49
William Winthrop Fund	3,000.00
Richard Frothingham Fund	3,000.00
General Fund	8,000.00
Anonymous Fund	1,691.79
William Amory Fund	3,000.00
Income of Appleton Fund	1,167.88
Income of William Winthrop Fund	75.57
Income of Richard Frothingham Fund	1,225.30
Income of Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund	334.14
Income of William Amory Fund	671.79
	<u>\$183,668.20</u>

During the year the Society has published one volume of Proceedings and one volume of Collections; and another volume of Proceedings is now in preparation. A volume of Collections, comprising a portion of the Correspondence of Jonathan Belcher, while Governor of Massachusetts, will be ready for delivery at an early date.

CHARLES C. SMITH, *Treasurer.*

Boston, March 31, 1893.

Report of the Auditing Committee.

The undersigned, a Committee appointed to examine the accounts of the Treasurer of the Massachusetts Historical

Society, as made up to March 31, 1893, have attended to that duty, and report that they find them correctly kept and properly vouched; that the securities held by the Treasurer for the several funds correspond with the statement in his Annual Report; that the balance of cash on hand is satisfactorily accounted for; and that the Trial Balance is accurately taken from the Ledger.

HAMILTON ANDREWS HILL, } *Committee.*¹

Boston, April 8, 1893.

Dr. SAMUEL A. GREEN, Librarian, submitted his report as follows:—

Report of the Librarian.

During the past year there have been added to the Library :

Books	632
Pamphlets	2,156
Unbound volumes of newspapers	12
Broadsides	28
Maps	7
Maps, portfolios of	9
Volumes of manuscripts	17
Manuscripts	35
<hr/>	
In all	2,896

Of the books added, 534 have been given, and 98 bought. Of the pamphlets added, 2,057 have been given, 88 bought, and 11 procured by exchange.

From the income of the Savage Fund, there have been bought 98 volumes, 88 pamphlets, 2 unbound volumes of newspapers, and 4 maps; and 37 volumes have been bound at the charge of the same fund.

From the income of the William Winthrop Fund, 129 volumes have been bound, and 16 repaired.

Of the books added to the Rebellion Department, 29 have been given, and 29 bought; and of the pamphlets added, 53 have been given, and 13 bought. There are now in this collection 1,981 volumes, 4,660 pamphlets, 791 broadsides, and 105 maps.

¹ Hon. Roger Wolcott, one of the members of the Committee, was detained at home by illness, and was not able to be present at the examination of the accounts.

In the collection of manuscripts there are 758 volumes, 162 unbound volumes, 75 pamphlets with manuscript notes, and 7,148 manuscripts.

The Library contains at the present time about 36,300 volumes, including the files of bound newspapers, the bound manuscripts, and the Dowse Collection. The number of pamphlets, including duplicates, is 94,786 ; and the number of broadsides, including duplicates, is 3,654.

During the year there have been taken out 51 books and 4 pamphlets, and all have been returned.

Respectfully submitted,

SAMUEL A. GREEN, *Librarian*.

BOSTON, April 13, 1893.

Dr. GREEN then said :—

Since the death of the Cabinet-keeper on the 8th of December last, at the request of the Council, I have been discharging the duties of that officer ; and I herewith submit the usual Annual Report, giving a detailed list of the accessions : —

Two engravings, John Cotton by H. Wright Smith, and William Pynchon by John A. J. Wilcox ; and four photographs of the Peabody Normal College, Nashville, Tennessee. . Given by Robert C. Winthrop.

A lithographic print of Samuel Buell and a half-tone portrait of T. D. Hunting. Given by Samuel A. Green.

A sheet of General Washington's private letter-paper with his name and crest in the water-mark. Given by Samuel F. McCleary.

A half-tone collection of portraits of One Hundred Massachusetts Notabilities. Given by Samuel A. Green.

A lithograph of a memorial design for a monument to Captain William Morgan, who was murdered near Fort Niagara, September 19, 1826. Given by Miss Ellen A. Stone.

Views of Dedham, second edition, August, 1892. Given by Donald Ramsay.

A heliotype in 1888 of "Charles I. demanding the five Impeached Members," from the painting by Copley in the Boston Public Library. Given by Walter Rowlands.

A heliotype of a photograph of John C. Calhoun ; and two engravings by William E. Marshall, of Robert E. Lee and Wade Hampton. Given by William A. Courtenay.

Three engravings of Natt Head, Asa Fowler, and Thomas W. Knox, all of New Hampshire. Given by Samuel A. Green.

Note of the New York Water Works for 8 shillings, January 6, 1776. Given by Josiah Bradlee.

Three large framed engravings of "The Pilgrims signing the Compact on board the May Flower, Nov. 11th 1620," by Gauthier; "Washington and his Generals," by Alexander H. Ritchie; and "The Last Days of Daniel Webster at Marshfield," by C. Mottram. Given by Mrs. James Tucker.

A photograph of the Old Bradford House, Kingston, built in 1675 by Major John Bradford, grandson of Governor William Bradford. Given by Thomas B. Drew, of Plymouth.

Badge of the Massachusetts Delegation to the Dedicatory Ceremonies of the World's Columbian Exposition at Jackson Park, Chicago, October, 1892. Given by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

A reproduction of an engraving of Ebenezer Pemberton (1672-1718) by H. Fletcher. Given by Walter K. Watkins.

A Columbian half-dollar, recently struck in commemoration of the discovery of America. Given by Frederick W. Putnam.

An engraving of Abbott Lawrence (b. 1792, d. 1855). Given by Samuel A. Green.

A photograph of the Tablet in Memorial Hall, Cambridge, erected in memory of Gen. Edward A. Wild (H. C., 1844). Given by George S. Hale.

Two bills of Rhode Island Money, representing three dollars and seven dollars, respectively. Given by Robert C. Winthrop.

Cotton Mather's watch, chain, and two seals; and a miniature painting of Increase Mather. Given by Mrs. Elizabeth Anna (Byles) Ellis, of Burlington, New Jersey.

Five etchings, of John Eliot, John Wilson, Hugh Peter, John Popham, and Pierre le Moyne d'Iberville. Given by Charles Edward Banks.

A Collection of photographs of officers who served during the War of the Rebellion. Given by Mrs. D. T. V. Huntoon.

SAMUEL A. GREEN,

Acting Cabinet-keeper.

Boston, April 3, 1893.

The report of the Committee to examine the Library and Cabinet was then read by Rev. Dr. SAMUEL E. HERRICK: —

Report of the Library Committee.

The Committee appointed to examine the Library and Cabinet have attended to that duty, and submit the following report: —

The Committee find themselves handicapped at the outset by the consideration, so often dwelt upon, of the inadequacy of the Society's funds to the proper care and development of its Library. There are but few suggestions to be made which are at all practicable until larger means shall be at our disposal. Meantime it has seemed to the Committee that there might be some modification of the lines upon which our collections are expanding, in the way of retrenchment and segregation. The Massachusetts Historical Society owes it to its own distinguished position, to the purposes for which it was created, and to its already excellent collections, to see to it that its Library is maintained and developed in what we may venture to call a spirit of historical chastity. The cells of our famous beehive should be found filled, if not with the best of honey only, at any rate with honey. Perhaps it may border perilously upon profanity to suggest that even the Dowse Collection contains matter that has no special claim to a place in a library which should be, first, midst, and last, a library for historical research. That generous and noble bequest, however, is, and must forever be, beyond the touch of criticism. But apart from those of our possessions which, by the very conditions under which we hold them, must be maintained in their integrity, it seems to your Committee that there might be some very advantageous winnowing, — or, to recur to the hint of our Society's seal, our honey would be improved by straining. The community is already furnished with libraries of general and miscellaneous character, whose conditions of use are sufficiently generous to all who wish to consult or draw from them, and whose book-housing is liberal enough to permit the indefinite aggregation of Patent Office reports, Legislative documents, Congressional records, reports of religious denominations and charitable societies, missionary and benevolent appeals, and all such miscellaneous matter. It is becoming a serious question whether, under the method of so general aggregation, the Society can ever possess a neat, attractive, and convenient arrangement of its real literary treasures. In the opinion of your Committee, our present rooms would be entirely adequate to such arrangement for a long time to come, were we to demit the functions of a general public library, and restrict ourselves severely to the preservation of truly historic matter, together with those things which have

become, or are most likely to become, literary or historic rarities. Besides the Harvard University Library, the Boston Public Library, the Athenæum and State Libraries, the learned professions already have in this city their special collections, devoted respectively to the history and current records of medicine, theology, and law. They will carry them forward without troubling us to do it in their behalf. Not that we should not have upon our shelves those books in any department of knowledge which are in the nature of historic landmarks,—the *Magnalia*, the *Spiegel van Sassen*, the *Regimen Sanitatis Salerni*, or the work of our learned medical associate and Librarian, Dr. Green, the *History of Medicine in Massachusetts*. But we should hardly be expected to carry a University library, and as little an *omnium gatherum* of statistics. Private collectors find it to their advantage to send their bushel of chaff to the auction-room, and buy with it a few grains of wheat, or even a single kernel; or failing of that, they purchase their room, their freedom, and their neatness at a not unreasonable price.

In the same general direction the Committee would suggest that it might be well, as soon as it can be conveniently done, to separate exceedingly valuable tracts, which in considerable numbers are now cheaply and ignominiously bound up in miscellany volumes, and restore them to their proper individuality and dignity as books.¹ As a hypothetical example, “*Johannes in Eremo*” ought not to be additionally condemned to inhumation by being bound up with a mass of comparatively worthless material. The possibility, or even the facility, of finding “*Johannes*” ought not to depend wholly upon his name being entered in a card catalogue. He should have such a fixed place—a local habitation as well as a name—with his great patriarchal family of brothers and sisters, that a glance of the eye would detect his presence or his absence.

Your Committee would make a single suggestion also as to the preservation of books in binding. Many of our most val-

¹ It should be said, in justice to our Librarian, Dr. Samuel A. Green, that he long ago saw the necessity of such a work, and has proceeded in it to a considerable extent. But he should be enabled to complete it at once. The Committee wish it to be understood that nothing in this report is in the nature of a personal reflection.

uable books will at no distant day need to be "unclothed, and clothed upon." Heat, dust, gas, handling, and lack of use almost as much, cause even the best of leather bindings to decay and literally "return to their dust." Cloth is better than leather. Vellum, or even good parchment, is better than either, and will endure for generations. Witness the scores of books in any considerable collection from the workshops of Plantin and the Elzevirs,—as solid and usable as when just from the binder's hands. Besides, a half-vellum binding has the merits of cheapness and good looks. Of course it is understood that in the Society's present lack of funds no great change can be made at once. It must be gradual. As a book goes now and then to get a new dress, might it not be well to begin a work in this direction, which will eventually result in a rehabilitation of the Library that will stand good, at least for a couple of centuries, against everything except what old-time juries used to call "the visitation of God"?

Your Committee cannot close this brief report without reverting gratefully to the faithful and laborious services of our Librarian, Dr. Samuel A. Green, and to the courtesy and efficiency of his assistants, Mr. Julius H. Tuttle and Mr. Alfred B. Page; nor without expressing a regretful conviction that they must all feel more deeply than any others can, the conditions and limitations which have given rise to the suggestions of this report.

Concerning the Society's Cabinet, your Committee find nothing to report, and have no suggestions to make. The loss which has been sustained in the death of our late associate and Cabinet-keeper, Dr. Fitch Edward Oliver, will doubtless find its fitting expression outside of the present paper.

SAMUEL E. HERRICK.
HENRY S. NOURSE.¹

The several reports were accepted, and referred to the Committee for publishing the Proceedings.

Rev. Edward G. Porter, from the Nominating Committee, presented the following list of candidates. All of the gentlemen named were elected by unanimous votes:—

¹ In consequence of absence from the city, Mr. Merriam, the other member of the Committee, was not able to serve.

President.

GEORGE EDWARD ELLIS.

Vice-Presidents.

FRANCIS PARKMAN.

CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS.

Recording Secretary.

EDWARD JAMES YOUNG.

Corresponding Secretary.

JUSTIN WINSOR.

Treasurer.

CHARLES CARD SMITH.

Librarian.

SAMUEL ABBOTT GREEN.

Cabinet-Keeper.

SAMUEL FOSTER McCLEARY.

Members at Large of the Council.

HENRY FITCH JENKS.

HORACE ELISHA SCUDDER.

SOLOMON LINCOLN.

ALEXANDER McKENZIE.

JOHN DAVIS WASHBURN.

Voted, That the thanks of the Society be presented to Mr. Edward J. Lowell and Rev. Edward G. Porter, retiring members of the Council, for efficient services.

After the adjournment, the members and some invited guests lunched with the President at his house in Marlborough Street.